



California Department of Veterans Affairs

NEWS FOR VETERANS

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CALIFORNIA VETERANS REGISTRY

The California Department of Veterans Affairs has recently completed significant enhancements to the California Veterans Registry.

The California Veterans Registry is an integral part of the California Veterans Memorial located in Capitol Park in Sacramento. The Registry is a permanent record of California Veterans -- past and present -- who have served our nation since statehood was established in 1850.

Until recently, access to the registry database has only been available on-site at the Memorial. Effective immediately the Veterans Registry is available on-line at: <http://www.cdva.ca.gov/memorial/cvrsearch.asp>. The website based registry includes expanded search capabilities that allow users to search using not only name, but branch of service, and period of service. These enhancements will also allow users to search by the name used while the veteran was on active duty in those instances where a name change may have occurred (i.e. marriage).

People visiting the Memorial will still be able to access specific information about California veterans and the manner in which they served by using a touch screen available on site. Each California veteran is entitled to submit the basic information of name, rank and branch of service free of cost (enhanced entries with biography and photo are also available for a minimal fee). Registration is made through the CDVA website.

The Department hopes that these enhancements will spark renewed interest in using the registry for research purposes and provide additional incentive for veterans to register.

VETERANS DAY 2004 EVENTS

Please report your organization's Veterans Day 2004 Events to the California Department of Veterans Affairs for inclusion in a Veterans Day 2004 Event Calendar. Email the What, When, Where, Who, and Why information for your event to newsforveterans@cdva.ca.gov.

NEWS FROM THE USDVA

VA ANNOUNCES HOMELESS PROGRAM AWARDS IN CALIFORNIA

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
September 29, 2004

WASHINGTON – The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) today identified recipients in California to share in approximately \$31 million in grants as part of VA's Homeless Providers Grant and Per Diem

Program.

"This year's awards reach out to groups assisting homeless veterans with special needs, such as those coping with chronic mental illness, those who care for young children and those with terminal illnesses," said Secretary of Veterans Affairs Anthony J. Principi. "VA is proud to help coordinate with other organizations to help end chronic homelessness for veterans in America."

The California grants include:

- Los Angeles, to Salvation Army for a program for chronically mentally ill veterans;
- Oakland, to Operation Dignity, for a program for chronically mentally ill veterans;
- San Francisco, to Swords to Plowshares, for a program for chronically mentally ill veterans;
- San Jose, to Emergency Housing Consortium of Santa Clara County, for a program for chronically mentally ill veterans;
- Long Beach, to United States Veterans Initiative, for a program for homeless women veterans;
- Los Angeles, to Salvation Army, for a program for homeless women veterans;
- San Diego, to Vietnam Veterans of San Diego, for a program for homeless women veterans;
- Santa Rosa, to Vietnam Veterans of California for a program for homeless women veterans; and
- Los Angeles, to Volunteers of America of Los Angeles, for a program for frail, elderly homeless veterans.

Thirty-nine programs in 17 states and the District of Columbia have been named to share \$18 million in grants. These first-time "special needs" grants will assist non-profit and faith-based organizations providing services to homeless veterans who are women, caretakers of minor children, elderly, terminally ill or who have a chronic mental illness.

In addition, VA is providing nearly \$13 million to medical centers to enhance collaboration with the grant recipients assisting those specific homeless populations.

VA is also providing grants to community-based agencies in eight states for renovations needed to improve safety of veterans as identified in the Life Safety Codes of the National Fire Protection Association.

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